AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, immediately after the title, please delete the centered heading as follows:

~~Description~~

At page 1, immediately before paragraph 0001, please insert the following :

Reference to Related Applications

This is the U.S. national stage, under 35 U.S.C. § 371, of international application no. PCT/EP2004/012519, having an international filing date of November 5, 2004, and claims priority to German application no. 10355183.2, filed November 26, 2003.

Field of the Disclosure

At page 1, please amend paragraph 0001 as follows:

This ~~invention~~ disclosure relates to a process and a device for the handling of objects such as containers, particularly bottles.

At page 1, immediately before paragraph 0002, please insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

Background of the Disclosure

At page 1, immediately before paragraph 0003 please insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

Summary of the Disclosure

At page 1, please amend paragraph 0003 as follows:

The task that forms the basis of the invention is that of making available a process and a device for the handling of containers, particularly of bottles, which makes it possible, in a constructionally simple and compact manner of construction, to allow for the necessary waiting times in the handling of the containers.

At page 1, please delete paragraph 0004 as follows:

~~This task is solved by the process in accordance with claim 1, and the device in accordance with claim 6.~~

At page 1, please amend paragraph 0005 as follows:

By means of the configuration in accordance with the ~~invention,~~ disclosure, a possibility is provided, in a constructionally simple manner, and with a compact, space-saving manner of construction, to allow containers to each pass a certain waiting time between two processing processes.

At page 2, please amend paragraph 0006 as follows:

The configurations ~~in accordance with the claims 2 and 7 to 9, respectively, by means of which it is ensured,~~ disclosed ensure, in a constructionally simple mechanical manner, that the containers pass through the desired section multiple times, whereby both the intake- and the discharge station, as well as the rotating conveyor, can be operated continuously -- that is to say, either in a uniformly timed manner or at a constant speed, without expensive controls based upon an identification of every individual container having to be used -- are of particular advantage.

At page 2, please amend paragraph 0007 as follows:

The ~~invention~~ disclosure is, in particular, advantageously usable in cases in which a tightness test for flexible containers, such as in the case of plastic bottles, for example, is to be carried out. For such a tightness test, such as is known from WO01/29528, for example, it is suitable to carry out an initial measurement, to place the container under pressure, and to then carry out a final measurement, whereby both measured values are compared with one another and, in the event of a deviation of the two measured values by a predetermined tolerance value, the container is rejected as untight. In the known measurement, two testing devices and a conveying section positioned between the testing devices, whereby the containers in the conveying section are kept under permanent pressure, are consequently necessary. It is, of course, also possible to identify untight, flexible containers by means of a single measurement, such as in the case of the device in accordance

with DE 197 03 528, for example. This publication describes clamping devices, by means of which a predetermined pressure, under which untight containers bulge out in an elliptical manner, is exerted on the containers. This elliptical convexity is preferably determined by means of a light barrier, which must be adjusted in such a manner, however, that its light beam passes by the circumference of the containers precisely outside an accepted convexity of the containers. For this, however, it is necessary to precisely adjust the light barrier to the predetermined form and the predetermined dimensions, which only provides benefits if only containers with one single shape and one single dimensioning are conveyed by means of the device.

At page 3, immediately before paragraph 0009, please insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

Brief Description of the Drawings

At page 3, please amend paragraph 0009 as follows:

One example of implementation of the ~~invention~~ disclosure is illustrated in further detail in the following by means of the single diagram of Fig. 1, which depicts a device in accordance with the ~~invention~~ disclosure for the implementation of the process in accordance with the ~~invention~~ disclosure in a schematic depiction in a view from above.

At page 3, immediately before paragraph 0010, please insert the following heading at the left-hand margin:

Detailed Description of the Disclosure

At page 3, please amend paragraph 0010 as follows:

The diagram of Fig. 1 depicts a device (1) in accordance with the ~~invention~~ disclosure for the handling of containers which, in one preferred example of implementation, is designed as part of a filling device for containers, and particularly as part of a filling device for flexible plastic bottles. The device (1) contains a rotating conveyor (2) in the form of a conventional carousel which is driven, in a rotating manner, in the direction of the arrow (A), whereby (A) determines the direction of

transport of the rotating conveyor (2). A multiplicity of conveying stations (3) are provided on the rotating conveyor (2).

At page 4, please amend paragraph 0015 as follows:

The conveying stations (3) can, as depicted in ~~the diagram~~ Fig. 1, be designed for the accommodation of one container (4) each. In devices in which several containers are simultaneously transported or handled, as the case may be, the conveying stations (3) can also be designed for the accommodation of several containers (4), however.

At page 8, please amend paragraph 0027 as follows:

For other purposes of use, the distance between the intake point (7) and the discharge point (14) -- that is to say, the length of the multiple section to be passed through (16) -- can be expanded, such as if a sufficient time has to be made available, such as in order to allow a foam formation to die down, or in order to subject the containers to an inspection, or in order to carry out a different processing of containers, for example. The design in accordance with the ~~invention~~ disclosure consequently offers the possibility of inspecting a container over a longer distance (but otherwise with the same time) than is actually possible with the machine size (such as rotating and inspecting in the same carousel, for example).

At page 9, please amend paragraph 0028 as follows:

Additional modifications of the device in accordance with the ~~invention~~ disclosure device are possible; thus, for example, the section (16) that is to be passed through multiple times can occupy approximately the entire distance of passage of the rotating conveyor (2), if the discharge station (10) is provided at the intake station (5) on the left side of the diagram. The number of the conveying stations can be changed and adjusted in accordance with need. The section (16) to be multiply passed through on the same conveying track can also be designed for three-fold passage, for example, whereby the mechanically controlled loading is brought about through the fact, for example, that only every third conveying station on the carousel is loaded and, when displaced by two conveying stations, only every third conveying station on the discharge station is emptied again. The intake- and

the discharge station can be designed for loading and emptying in the same stroke if the intake point (7) and the discharge point (14) are located relative to one another at a distance corresponding to an even number of conveying stations (3). Finally, the displaced loading and emptying can also be ensured by means of technical control measures, even if at increased expense.